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## Amendment to the Claims:

Cancel Claims 15-20.

## **Listing of Claims:**

1. (original) A compound of the structural formula I:

$$R^{5}O$$
 $R^{8}$ 
 $R^{9}$ 
 $R^{10}$ 
 $R^{$ 

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

wherein  $R^1$  is  $C_{1-4}$  alkyl, wherein alkyl is unsubstituted or substituted with hydroxy, amino,  $C_{1-4}$  alkoxy,  $C_{1-4}$  alkylthio, or one to three fluorine atoms;

R<sup>2</sup> is amino, fluorine, hydroxy, mercapto, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, or C<sub>1-10</sub> alkylcarbonyloxy;

R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, cyano, azido, halogen, hydroxy, mercapto, amino, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1-10</sub> alkylcarbonyloxy, C<sub>2-4</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2-4</sub> alkynyl, and C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, wherein alkyl is unsubstituted or substituted with hydroxy, amino, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylthio, or one to three fluorine atoms;

R5 is hydrogen, C<sub>1-10</sub> alkylcarbonyl, P<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>, or P(O)R<sup>13</sup>R<sup>14</sup>;

R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> are each independently hydrogen, methyl, hydroxymethyl, or fluoromethyl; R<sup>8</sup> is hydrogen, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-4</sub> alkynyl, halogen, cyano, carboxy, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyloxycarbonyl, azido, amino, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylamino, di(C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl)amino, hydroxy,

C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylthio, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylsulfonyl, or (C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl)<sub>0-2</sub> aminomethyl; R<sup>9</sup> is hydrogen, cyano, nitro, C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl, NHCONH<sub>2</sub>, CONR<sup>12</sup>R<sup>12</sup>, CSNR<sup>12</sup>R<sup>12</sup>, COOR<sup>12</sup>, C(=NH)NH<sub>2</sub>, hydroxy, C<sub>1-3</sub> alkoxy, amino, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylamino, di(C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl)amino, halogen, (1,3-oxazol-2-yl), (1,3-thiazol-2-yl), or (imidazol-2-yl); wherein alkyl is unsubstituted or substituted with

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one to three groups independently selected from halogen, amino, hydroxy, carboxy, and C<sub>1-3</sub> alkoxy;

R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>11</sup> are each independently hydrogen, hydroxy, halogen, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, amino, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylamino, di(C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl)amino, C<sub>3-6</sub> cycloalkylamino, di(C<sub>3-6</sub> cycloalkyl)amino, or C<sub>4-6</sub> cycloheteroalkyl, unsubstituted or substituted with one to two groups independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, amino, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, and

C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy;

each R<sup>12</sup> is independently hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl; and

R<sup>13</sup> and R<sup>14</sup> are each independently hydroxy, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>SC(=O)C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, OCH<sub>2</sub>O(C=O)OC<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, NHCHMeCO<sub>2</sub>Me, OCH(C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl)O(C=O)C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl,

## 2. (original) The compound of Claim 1 of the structural formula II:

$$R^{5}O$$
 $S$ 
 $R^{1}$ 
 $R^{10}$ 
 $R^{10}$ 
 $R^{10}$ 
 $R^{11}$ 
 $R^{11}$ 
 $R^{11}$ 
 $R^{11}$ 
 $R^{11}$ 
 $R^{11}$ 
 $R^{11}$ 
 $R^{11}$ 
 $R^{11}$ 
 $R^{11}$ 

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

wherein

 $R^1$  is  $C_{1-3}$  alkyl, wherein alkyl is unsubstituted or substituted with hydroxy, amino,  $C_{1-3}$  alkoxy,  $C_{1-3}$  alkylthio, or one to three fluorine atoms;

R<sup>2</sup> is hydroxy, fluoro, C<sub>1-3</sub> alkoxy, or C<sub>1-8</sub> alkylcarbonyloxy;

R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, amino, C<sub>1-3</sub> alkoxy, or C<sub>1-8</sub> alkylcarbonyloxy;

R<sup>5</sup> is hydrogen, C<sub>1-8</sub> alkylcarbonyl, P<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>, or PO<sub>3</sub>H<sub>2</sub>;

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R<sup>8</sup> is hydrogen, amino, or C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylamino;

R<sup>9</sup> is hydrogen, cyano, methyl, halogen, or CONH2; and

R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>11</sup> are each independently hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, amino,

C<sub>1-4</sub> alkylamino, di(C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl)amino, or C<sub>3-6</sub> cycloalkylamino.

3. (original) The compound of Claim 2 wherein

R<sup>1</sup> is methyl, fluoromethyl, hydroxymethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, or aminomethyl;

R<sup>2</sup> is hydroxy, fluoro, or methoxy;

R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen, fluoro, hydroxy, amino, or methoxy;

R<sup>5</sup> is hydrogen or P<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>H<sub>4</sub>;

R8 is hydrogen or amino;

R<sup>9</sup> is hydrogen, cyano, methyl, halogen, or CONH2; and

R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>11</sup> are each independently hydrogen, fluoro, hydroxy, or amino.

4. (original) The compound of Claim 3 which is 4-amino-7-(2-*C*-methyl-4-thio-β-D-ribofuranosyl)-7*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine or 2-amino-7-(2-*C*-methyl-4-thio-β-D-ribofuranosyl)-7*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-*d*]pyrimidin-4(3*H*)-one; and the corresponding 5'-triphosphates; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

- 5. (original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 6. (original) The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 5 useful for inhibiting RNA-dependent RNA viral polymerase, inhibiting RNA-dependent RNA replication, and/or treating RNA-dependent RNA viral infection.
- 7. (original) The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 6 wherein said RNA-dependent RNA viral polymerase is HCV NS5B polymerase, said RNA-dependent RNA viral replication is HCV replication, and said RNA-dependent RNA viral infection is HCV infection.

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8. (original) A method of inhibiting RNA-dependent RNA viral polymerase and/or inhibiting RNA-dependent RNA viral replication comprising administering to a mammal in need of such inhibition an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1.

- 9. (original) The method of Claim 8 wherein said RNA-dependent RNA viral polymerase is HCV NS5B polymerase and said RNA-dependent RNA viral replication is HCV viral replication.
- 10. (original) A method of treating RNA-dependent RNA viral infection comprising administering to a mammal in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1.
- 11. (original) The method of Claim 10 wherein said RNA-dependent RNA viral infection is HCV infection.
- 12. (original) The method of Claim 11 in combination with a therapeutically effective amount of another agent active against HCV.
- 13. (original) The method of Claim 12 wherein said agent active against HCV is ribavirin; levovirin; thymosin alpha-1; interferon- $\beta$ ; an inhibitor of NS3 serine protease; an inhibitor of inosine monophosphate dehydrogenase; interferon- $\alpha$  or pegylated interferon- $\alpha$ , alone or in combination with ribavirin or levovirin.
- 14. (original) The method of Claim 13 wherein said agent active against HCV is interferon-α or pegylated interferon-α, alone or in combination with ribavirin.

15-20. (cancelled)